

**CITY OF WINCHESTER
NATURAL RESOURCES ADVISORY BOARD**

February 24, 2011

Winchester City Yards Conference Room

5:30 P.M.

MINUTES & ACTION ITEMS

- I. Board Chair Dave Worthington welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order. In attendance were Dave Worthington, Woody Bousquet, Jim Giraytys, Tom Hoy and Tree Commission Liaison, T'ai Roulston.
- II. Dave Worthington said that he did a synopsis of the January 27, 2011 meeting minutes and he asked the members to look at it to see if this is the format they would like to see as far as the regular meetings. The members decided to add this as an action item for the March meeting. Dave said that a correction is needed on the January 27, 2011 minutes. He said that under the "City Preserves Report" section in the first sentence it should say "Woody Bousquet presented it to the Parks and Recreation Board." Woody Bousquet made a motion to approve the January 27, 2011 minutes as amended, seconded by Jim Giraytys; motion was approved by a 3-0 vote. Jim Giraytys made a motion to approve the February 10, 2011 work session minutes, seconded by Woody Bousquet; motion was approved by a 3-0 vote.
- III. Status of Previous action items: Dave Worthington said that Jim Lawrence was going to talk to Ron Tuttle, who is a local expert on natural landscaping zones, about coming in and speaking to the board. He said that Jim is out sick and this would have to be tabled until the next meeting. Woody Bousquet suggested asking Jim to update the members through email about possible dates. Dave said that the next action item was for Woody to make a third draft of the Natural Landscaping Ordinance information paper based on the discussion at the previous meeting. Woody said that he distributed that to all of the members and he received two comments, one from Jim Lawrence and one from Dave listing possible projects. He said that he would like the board's permission to save that for version two. He said that Shenandoah University is managing part of their riparian buffer, so maybe it should be divided into private and public property. He said that he distributed it to the members and version one is complete. He said that if anyone has any amendments, please send them to him. Woody said that all of the examples are on city property with the exception of Dave Worthington's property. Dave said the third item was for him to get with Tim Youmans to get the revised Comprehensive Document draft. Dave said that it was provided to all of the members in email. Dave said the last item was to coordinate the development of a plan for Shawnee Springs. Woody said that Jim Lawrence had agreed to Chair a group and he agreed to sit on it. He said that Gerald Crowell wanted some input as well. Dave said that this item will have to be postponed until the next meeting.
- IV. No-Mow Zone action plan status: Dave Worthington said that it was agreed at the last meeting that three of the board members would speak to City Council members individually to discuss the plan. He said that he is

supposed to speak to John Willingham, Jim Lawrence will speak with Milt McInturff and Woody Bousquet and Gerald Crowell will speak with Evan Clark. Dave said that he did speak with John Willingham but he has not been able to set up a meeting yet. He said that they should be setting up a meeting within the next week. He said that he does not think Jim Lawrence has had a chance to meet with Milt McInturff yet. Woody said that he sent an email to Evan Clark and attached a copy of the plan. He said that he has not heard back from him. He said that he needs to follow up with him by phone. Dave and Woody agreed that they would attempt to set up a meeting with Evan Clark and John Willingham by March 3, 2011 and then report by email.

- V. Tree Commission Liaison Report: T'ai Roulston said that there were two main issues that were discussed. He said that there was a presentation by someone on behalf of Shenandoah Valley Electric Cooperative on the use of growth regulators on trees. He said that they want to use growth regulators so that they do not have to trim as often. He said that they hope to treat all of the trees that are under power lines by treating 25% of them a year for four years. He said that they were looking for endorsement from the Tree Commission. He said that the Tree Commission members had no knowledge of the tree growth regulator so they postponed their decision until the next meeting. Dave asked if there is anything that the Tree Commission wants from the Natural Resources Advisory Board. T'ai said they would like any information or opinions individually or collectively would be welcome. T'ai said that the only thing from the Tree Commission standpoint that would be beneficial is that treating a tree in decline would prolong its life by slowing down the growth rate. T'ai said that the second issue that was discussed was a large sidewalk and tree renovation project that will be taking place on Valley Avenue from Handley Avenue to Bellview Avenue. He said there are plans to redo the entire length of sidewalks on both sides of the street and in front of Handley High School there are plans of a much wider and more tree friendly sidewalk. He said the proposed replacement trees in front of Handley High School are disease resistant American Elms. He said that there are thirty-one other trees along Valley Avenue that are scheduled for review by the Tree Commission. He said that none of the members have looked at them yet. He said that Tim Stern has identified eighty-one spots for potential plantings. He said that the Tree Commission will make the decision as to the species of trees that will be planted. He said that the Tree Commission will vote on the removal requests next month and then that will create a Tree Commission project for plantings along the entire improvement project.
- VI. Comprehensive Plan Discussion: Dave said that he sent out emails on the Comprehensive Plan and Tim Youmans wants the members to take one last look at it to see if it meets their needs. He said that all of the recommendations that the members made a year and a half ago were included in the draft with the exception of those requested that were very specific. He said that it is now on the city's webpage. He asked the members to look at the plan before the next meeting and make recommendations, propose changes or make corrections that are needed and then bring comments to discuss at the next regularly scheduled meeting so that it can be presented to Tim Youmans before the end of March. Woody

asked that an action item be added for Jim Giraytys and Tom Hoy to discuss the proposals that Jim made in regards to air quality and see that they are brought to the Planning staffs attention by March 3, 2011.

- VII. NRAB Brochure Review: Dave Worthington said that the first thing is to make sure that the corrections were done that were discussed at the last meeting. The amended brochure was approved.
- VIII. Sign Designs-Whittier and Friendship Parks: Dave said that this is something that Jim Lawrence is working on and it will have to be tabled until the next meeting. Tom Hoy asked about the signs and Dave said that they will be interpretive signs and there was a request to put the wording together.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:22 p.m.

NO.	ACTION ITEM:	ASSIGNED TO:	TARGET DATE:	STATUS:
1	Review synopsis of January meeting minutes for format.	Everyone	3/24/11	
2	Send email to members about possible dates for Ron Tuttle to speak to the members.	Jim Lawrence	3/24/11	
3	Work on sign designs for Whittier and Friendship parks.	Jim Lawrence	3/24/11	
4	Contact City Councilors about the Natural Landscaping Zones	Dave Worthington and Woody Bousquet	3/3/11	
5	Look over Comprehensive Plan, make recommendations and bring comments to the next meeting.	Everyone	3/24/11	
6	Discuss air quality proposals for the Comprehensive Plan with the Planning staff.	Tom Hoy and Jim Giraytys	3/3/11	